

COMMUNICATON, MARRIAGE, AND THE BIBLE

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COMMUNICATION AND MARRIAGE IN THE BIBLE

Great!

If communication is a highly important human act among people, it is highly more importantly imperative when we think on the couples' relationship. It is so important that the Bible itself begins with a piece of communication. God used language to create. His action was preceded of communication, and so He communicated with Adam and Eve, and the all creation. Thus, if communication is vital and crucial to relate among people, it is even more for couples who are together many hours during the year.

Communication is a human act that we have learned from God. It is He who confused the language of people in Babel to force them to communicate among themselves (Gen. 11: 1-8NIV). It is He who discussed with Abraham in plain language the plans to destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18: 17-33 NIV). It is He who spoke to the multitude scattered around Mount Sinai the Ten Words and gave Moses the teachings that would guide the Hebrew nation over the desert (Ex. 20: 1-17 NIBV). However, in talking about communication between husband and wife, God does something that surprise: He made them one flesh. He made them so close, that if they do not communicate to each other, their union is at risk. Thus, God put the bond of "communication" between Adam and Eve, husband and wife. They do not use only language to communicate each other, but they lay down together to communicate each other through sexual relationships. The Apostle Paul refines the concept writing to the Corinthians,

"The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife (1Co. 7:3-4 NIV)."

Nevertheless, this “marital duty” is accompanied with love to reach the level of a true Christian man and a true Christian woman. They are two individuals who present themselves to the Lord in purity and sanctity.

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing [Or having cleansed] her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (Eph. 5:25-27 NIV).”

They walk the “way” of the Lord together, and they communicate each other in love to be able to present them as a “radiant church,” clean and pure. The husband with his love understands that his wife has been purified and cleansed through the Word, and she also can present herself “holy and blameless” before the Lord. This is the communication pattern that God wants our society to have.

However, our society today is in need in redemption. Sometimes the couples do not understand that communication is not a monologue, but a dialogue. Other times they do not realize that understanding each other is the beginning of a good relationship. Thus, the rate of divorce is higher every year, with Christian and non-Christian families. Christian couples, within this secular Christian society that we live, do not have the Christ-Church relationship as their model of communication. It is otherwise. Each one either seeks his or her fulfillment and personal satisfaction, or they separate and divorce if they do not see they can get it. The sanctification concept is almost absent within the communication parameters of the family. The main concept of sacrificing our own desires for the sake of the Lord and the family is seldom found within the Christian homes of our society today. Thus, if communication is used, it is not for this regard. It seems as if Christian counselors and therapist have the task to reframing and redeeming

in Christ the life of many husbands and wives, who look for separation and divorce, because they do not reach fulfillment to their own individual goals and aspirations. Nevertheless, there is hope. There are institutions like Southern California Bible College & Seminary, which are equipping a small army of Christian counselors, who are going to use all their knowledge and wisdom to make a difference in the life of many in our town. Every year there are more graduates from the MFCP that go into the private practice to offer the public a Christian perspective in counseling and do the work of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

Communication to improve the relationship between the couples and among the members of the family is not enough. Communication should be the instrument for the members of the family to respect, understand, and serve each other. It should follow the model of communication between God and His People, Christ and the Church. It should be used to redeem, convert, and sanctify every one within the family, and to glorify the name of the Lord who gave the family salvation and eternal life.

*Thanks for
a paper which
presents insights not
seen by others in the
class!*

(20)